The Pyongyang Times

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"Under socialism the peasant and agricultural questions consist in developing the productive forces of agriculture to a high level, in making the peasants well off, abolishing the backwardness of the countryside left over by the exploiter society, and gradually eliminating the distinctions between town and country, on the basis of the steady consolidation of the socialist system established in the countryside.

...

"For the successful solution of the peasant and agricultural questions under socialism, it is imperative to adhere firmly to three basic principles in rural work.

"First, the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions should be thoroughly carried out in the rural areas;

"Second, the working-class leadership of the peasantry, the assistance of industry to agriculture, and the support of the towns to the countryside should be strengthened in every way;

"Third, the guidance and management of agriculture should be brought continuously to approach the advanced level of enterprise management of industry, the bonds between all-people property and co-operative property should be strengthened, and co-operative property should be steadily brought closer to property of the whole people."

KIM IL SUNG

GREAT PROGRAMME FOR SOCIALIST RURAL CONSTRUCTION

Today our people, together with the revolutionary people the world over, mark the tenth anniversary of the publication of the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country", an immortal classical work authored by the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

On this occasion, we reflect upon the great role he has played for the development of the revolution of our times and the great contribution he has made to it.

The history of the half-a-century revolutionary struggle of the leader is a history of a distinguished thinker and theorist and a brilliant history of his accumulation of a wealth of great asset, ideological and theoretical.

Through his unremitting ideological and theoretical activities and energetic literary activities, he gave scientific, comprehensive answers to many difficult and complex problems raised by the world events and the revolutionary practice of our times.

Reflecting the new stage of the development of the international communist movement and its inevitable requirement, he founded the great Juche idea and, on this basis, put forward the theory and strategy and tactics on the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution, the socialist revolution, the building of socialism and communism and the world revolution, thereby enriching the treasure-house of Marxism-Leninism beyond measure.

An example is his brilliant work, "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" which comprehends his theory concerning the socialist rural question.

The theses on the rural question clarifies the revolutionary principles and scientific ways for the final solution of the rural question for the first time in history. It is not only a great programme for the socialist rural construction in our country but also a Marxist-Leninist classical work which serves as a guiding principle in the building of socialism and communism.

In his work, the leader newly expounded the position of the rural question in the building of socialism and communism and gave a profound exposition of the rural question presented at different stages of the development of the revolution.

In his immortal theses on the rural question the leader points out that in the stage of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution, the peasant and agricultural questions consisted in abolishing feudal landownership in the countryside and emancipating the peasantry from the fetters of the feudal relations of production and in the socialist stage of the revolution, the peasant and agricultural questions consisted in emancipating the peasantry once and for all from every form of exploitation and oppression by liquidating the capitalist elements in the countryside and reorganizing the individual peasant economy into the socialist collective economy.

But this, he said, does not mean at all that the revolution is over.

The distinctions between town and country and class differences between the working class and the peasantry remain even after the disappearance of exploiting classes and the completion of socialist transformation. The revolution, therefore, must be carried forward to build socialism on a full scale and prepare for the gradual transition to communism.

The leader's original idea on the necessity to carry forward the revolution under socialism is a guiding principle to be held fast to by the revolutionaries.

The socialist rural question is a question arising after the establishment of the socialist system in the countryside.

It is a very difficult and complex one for whose solution there is neither practical example nor any heritage. But the leader elucidated the quintessence of the socialist rural question and the basic principle and ways for its solution from the unswerving standpoint of making uninterrupted revolution and with the Juche-motivated wisdom of intelligence.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"After the triumph of the socialist system in town and country the rural question presents itself in a fundamentally different light from that in the preceding period.

"Under socialism the peasant and agricultural questions consist in developing the productive forces of agriculture to a high level, in making the peasants well off, abolishing the backwardness of the countryside left over by the exploiter society, and gradually eliminating the distinctions between town and country, on the basis of the steady consolidation of the socialist system established in the countryside." (Kim Il Sung, *Selected Works*, Vol. IV, Eng. ed., pp. 35-36.)

After indicating the strategic target of the socialist rural construction and the course of transition to a classless society, the leader defined the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions as the central revolutionary tasks that must be carried out in the rural areas.

The lag of the countryside behind town in the form of ownership, the level of development of the productive forces and the level of economic management is connected, above all, with the backwardness of the farm villages in the technical, cultural and ideological spheres. Therefore, only by carrying out the tasks of the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions, can we abolish the distinctions between industry and agriculture, the class distinction between the working class and the peasantry and the distinctions between town and country.

Having defined the central revolutionary task of the socialist rural construction, the leader gave a new exposition of the correlation of the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions and ways for their accomplishment.

He instructed:

"The tasks of the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions in the countryside are closely interlinked, and they must be carried out as a unified process." (Ibid., pp. 37-38.)

"While giving definite priority to the ideological revolution, we must, at the same time, energetically promote the technical and cultural revolutions." (Ibid., p. 39.)

The leader's teaching is a creative theory based on the scientific analysis of the correlation and action of the three revolutions and the law governing their development.

The technical, cultural and ideological revolutions are independent revolutionary tasks dealing with different spheres of economy, culture and ideology—social phenomena.

They are closely connected with each other and act on each other.

The technical revolution serves as a material precondition for the successful promotion of the cultural revolution and the enhancement of the cultural and technical levels of the working people by means of carrying out the cultural revolution is prerequisite to the successful implementation of the technical revolution. The technical and cultural revolutions exert influence upon the ideological revolution and the ideological revolution is a decisive guarantee for the successful promotion of the technical and cultural revolutions.

Skillfully embodied in this creative theory is the strategic and tactical policy which enables us to locate the main link in the whole chain of the three revolutions and pull the whole chain towards the successful accomplishment of the revolution as a whole by concentrating efforts on this link.

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GLORIOUS TEN YEARS OF ADVANCE UNDER THE QUESTION IN OUR COUNTRY" MADE PUBLIC BY

Bringing the Great Plan to Realization

The great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung stated:

"All the policies that our Party has determined and carried through from the day of liberation to this date have not been copied from anywhere, but have been creatively mapped out by ourselves in accordance with the requirement of development of our country's revolution from the Juche-motivated stand."

As is the case with all the lines and policies on the revolution and construction formulated by the leader, the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country," a great programme worked out and made public personally by him for the building of socialist countryside, is a splendid fruit of the Juche idea of the great leader who possesses scientific insight and exceptional leadership.

Today our people greet the significant tenth anniversary of the publication of the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" and look back with deep emotion on the days of the leader's great guidance for bringing to realization his far-sighted plan for the final solution of the socialist rural question.

A successful solution of the rural question commensurate with the socialist system presented itself as an urgent problem following the triumph of this system.

The imperialists were crying down the agricultural policies of socialist countries, alleging that they were ignorant of how to farm and would be unable to catch up with capitalist countries in agriculture, however greatly they might develop it.

So, the socialist rural question was a serious problem awaiting urgent solution.

But no theoretical exposition had hitherto been given, nor had anyone gained practical experience as yet, with regard to a series of matters, namely: What are the essence and contents of the rural question under socialism? What are the basic principles to be maintained by the Party and state of the working class in the rural work for its solution? What are the concrete ways for the final solution of the rural question?

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung solved the socialist rural question in an original way, having deeply perceived that its correct solution was an urgent requirement of the times. He deeply grasped the realities of our countryside from various angles, firmly maintaining the stand of Juche, and unravelled one by one the problems arising in the socialist rural construction. In this course, he deepened his study of how to solve the rural question and elaborated on his plan for its solution.

At the National Congress of Agricultural Cooperatives held in January 1959, the leader, basing himself on the thought on continuous revolution, taught that the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions should be pushed ahead forcefully in the countryside.

In accordance with the teaching of the leader, after the completion of the agricultural cooperativization the prearranged technical and cultural revolutions were energetically promoted in our country, with definite precedence given to the work of educating the people in communist ideology and remoulding them.

It was imperative to improve leadership in conformity with the new circumstances and conditions where, as a result of the cooperativization, the productive forces of agriculture developed rapidly, the scale of production increased sharply and the political enthusiasm of the masses rose immensely. The level of the functionaries in their work, however, failed to keep pace with the rapid changes and development of the reality.

The leader perceived all these matters in good time and took measures to improve the system and methods of work to suit the new circumstances. In February 1960 he visited the Chongsan-ri village in Kangso County.

He spent 15 days, not a day or two, to give guidance at the ordinary farm village, though he had much work to do, attending to all the state affairs, big and small.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung gives on-the-spot guidance to the Chongryong Cooperative Farm in Chaeryong County

During this period he called in person at farmers' homes and discussed the work of the cooperative. He had a detailed grasp of the actual situation of the village in various other ways and methods, that is to say, he knew, like the palm of his hand, how all the matters stood with Chongsan-ri. Then he showed clear-cut ways for correct management of the socialist rural economy.

Through this guidance, the leader created the great Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method, which brought all the functionaries to effect a revolutionary change in their work.

With a plan to decisively improve the guidance of the socialist rural economy through the embodiment of the great Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method he himself created, the leader paid a visit to Sukchon County, South Pyongan Province, at the close of 1961. He talked with leading agricultural workers and management personnel of the cooperative farms in the county to have a deep understanding of the state of agricultural production and the guidance and management of agriculture, and he gave concrete instructions to radically improve the system of agricultural guidance.

At the beginning of 1962, the leader set up a county cooperative farm management committee — a specialized agricultural leading body directly guiding the cooperative farms — personally fixed its apparatus and gave detailed instructions as to the role and functions of each of its departments and its functionaries.

Thanks to the wise guidance of the leader, an example was created in the guidance of socialist countryside and generalized all over the country. This was how a new system of agricultural guidance was established to suit the changed realities in the countryside.

On the other hand, the leader propounded a new, unique thought on a regional unit and base and, through years of his systematic guidance, built up the Changsong County as a model in this respect.

The leader generalized the example of the Changsong County all over the country to steadily enhance the role of county in the building of socialist countryside.

This was not all that he did in studying the problem concerning the solution of the socialist rural question. True, he travelled from one farm village to another for on-the-spot guidance, be it in a plain or in a remote mountainous area. He got concrete grasp of the actual state of affairs in the countryside and took appropriate measures and then continued to think out ways and means to solve matters.

It was toward dusk in November 1963. The leader went to the Tokchon Cooperative Farm in Taedong County, well known as an out-of-the-way village from old time. There he found that the living standards of the co-op farmers were not so high though they were farming pretty well.

Two days later, on December 2, he sent a car to fetch functionaries of the cooperative farm, and even discussed the work of their co-op farm at a meeting of department directors of the Party Central Committee.

During a long talk with them, he acquainted himself with the annual grain harvests and cash income of the farm and showed them the basic direction and specific ways for reinforcing its economic foundation and improving the living standards of the farmers still further.

At the meeting, he emphasized that since industry developed, it should give active assistance to agriculture and that towns should support the countryside, and said that the state should actively assist the countryside by undertaking rural capital construction at its own expense and even providing farm implements gratis to the co-op farms. Moreover, he gave programmatic instructions as to the problem of abolishing the agricultural tax-in-kind within two to three years, the problem of cancelling state loans and many other problems.

Though it was known later on, at that time the people in Tokchon failed to fully perceive that the leader had a far-reaching plan to make our villages as good as towns, raise the status of the peasantry to the level of the working class and eliminate differences between town and country and he was so deeply concerned about how to bring it to realization.

In this way he grasped the actual conditions of a cooperative farm first and then judged the situation of the countryside and thus brilliantly explored the straight way to the solution of the socialist rural question.

The leader gained insight into the concrete conditions of our countryside as a whole, synthesized many problems arising there and scientifically analysed and generalized a wealth of experience he accumulated in the course of his guidance at the rural villages. And then he made public the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country," a great programme of socialist rural construction.

Indeed, the great theses of the leader on the rural question served as a beacon fire showing a great truth in the solution of the socialist rural question, a question which remained unsettled though many had groped about for a way of its solution. In fact it was a splendid sunrise, a harbinger of brilliant morning.

His great plan on the rural question dates far back to the years of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

He included his far-sighted plan for solution of the peasant and agricultural questions in the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland which he drew up not in a study or a seminar but in the crucible of the hard-fought struggle to defeat the Japanese imperialists.

His far-reaching plan for solution of the peasant and agricultural questions, a plan deeply rooted in the days of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, was matured to meet the present-day requirement and was crystallized in his unique theses on the socialist rural question.

He authored the great theses on the socialist rural question and has wisely led our people to put it into practice. That is why great achievements have been made in the building of our socialist countryside.

Kim Su Yon

(Continued from Page 1)

The theory reflects the principle which enables us to step up the ideological revolution decisively ahead of all other work and, simultaneously, push ahead with the technical and cultural revolutions vigorously and scale both the material and ideological fortresses in the building of socialism and communism.

In the immortal theses on the rural question, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung expounded the superb idea on raising the leadership role of the working class as a condition for the liquidation of the lag of the countryside behind the towns and the final solution of the rural question.

He taught:

"And these tasks cannot be solved unless the working class gives guidance and assistance to the peasantry. It is our Party's line to give material and technical assistance to the peasants and carry out the technical revolution in the rural areas by relying on the solid basis of industry. ... Along with this, the working class must help the peasantry in their ideological remoulding and exert also a cultural influence on them. Only in this way can the peasantry be completely working-classized." ("On the Questions of the Period of Transition from Capitalism to Socialism and the Dictatorship of the Proletariat", Eng. ed., p. 14.)

The process of building the socialist countryside is a process in which the working class leads the peasantry, its class ally, and transforms the latter's ideology and economy in conformity with the working-class mission and thus communize the countryside and build a classless society and achieve the complete victory of socialism in the countryside.

In the great theses on the rural question, the leader, proceeding from such requirements of the law, instructed that the leadership role of the working class should be enhanced in every way and that the state of the working class should assume full responsibility for the development of agriculture and the life of the peasantry in keeping with the new historical conditions where the socialist transformation was completed.

Basing himself upon the scientific elucidation on the inevitability of the support of the working class to the socialist countryside and its objective grounds, he systematically clarified even the principles and way of the support and newly founded the theory on the guidance and management of socialist agriculture.

He established the new system of agricultural guidance to make the state directly undertake the guidance and management of agriculture. Thus he rendered it possible to direct agriculture by the industrial method instead of the previous administrative method and decisively improve and strengthen the guidance and management of agriculture.

The immortal theses on the rural question gave systematic exposition of the question of developing and perfecting co-operative property, the question of constantly bringing co-operative property close to property of the whole people through the direct production ties between industry and agriculture and the organic fusing of the two types of property and the question of converting co-operative property into all-people property in this course.

The ties between industry and agriculture are established in various forms. What is most important among them is to strengthen the direct production ties.

The leader taught that in order to strengthen these ties, the state enterprises serving the rural economy must be expanded and reinforced to hold an overwhelming proportion in agricultural production and that co-operative property is smoothly converted into all-people property in the course of maturing these conditions without letup.

This is the process of the law in full accord with the true character of co-operative property.

Originally, co-operative property is the transitional form of property to lead private economy to property of the whole people. With the strengthening and development of all-people property, co-operative property gradually disappears, discharging its transitional mission.

The thought newly set forth by the leader is an embodiment in the relations of ownership of the theory on the working-classization of the peasantry. It reflects the revolutionary stand of the working class toward the peasantry. It is the original theory that accelerates the complete victory of socialism by cementing the worker-peasant alliance.

The immortal theses on the rural question also clarifies a unique line, the line of designating the regional unit and the base in conformity with the characteristic feature of rural work.

The new clarification on the designation of the regional unit of guidance and the base in socialist rural construction is quite a new theory that intensifies the working-class leadership in compliance with the specific feature of the regionally dispersed rural areas and successfully speeds up the construction of the socialist countryside.

Indeed, the leader newly elucidated and founded many problems and theories—the clarification of the position and importance of the rural question in the revolution and construction, the main contents of the rural question and the basic principles for its solution, the creation of the theory on the necessity to carry forward the revolution in the socialist countryside and on its important contents, the new exposition of the essential contents and the historical, social and economical sources of the differences between town and country, the new exposition of the necessity of the support of the working class to the socialist countryside and its objective grounds, the new elucidation of the distinctions between industry and agriculture in the ownership relations and in the level of economic management and their origin, the creation of the theory on the guidance and management of the socialist rural economy, etc.

The peasant and agricultural questions, to the solution of which the founders of Marxism-Leninism directed deep attention, have thus completely been solved theoretically and practically and mankind has come to know clearly for the first time the concrete way of abolishing the class distinction between the working class and the peasantry and the differences between town and country and going over to a classless society.

Over the past ten years, our people have brought about an epochal change, embodying this great programme in their actual life. Looking back upon the great achievements with great pride, our people extend boundless gratitude and respect to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and evince their adamant resolve to hasten their march toward socialism and communism along the road indicated by him.

Pak Ju Sol

We've Become Agricultural Working People Infinitely Loyal to the Leader

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"Today our peasants are rallied closely around the Workers' Party, and are striving with all their energies and abilities to put the Party's policies into practice thoroughly."

These words of the leader, whenever I recall them, set me to think with deep emotion how great changes took place in the ideological life of myself and the members of our workteam.

Our cooperative in Hwasong village was amalgamated with one in the neighbouring community, and its scale of economic management was rapidly enlarged. This happened in 1958.

The large-scale collective economy displayed a mighty force from the outset. When we engaged in private farming, none of us would plan to do something more for an increased output, because it was beyond our power. But after the cooperative farm was organized, everything went on in good shape as we planned.

We peasants in Hwasong had long farmed on a sterile land divided into small patches. After the cooperativization we carried out a nature-remaking project to irrigate the Hwasong plain and convert dry land into paddy fields, with the help of the state and by concerted efforts of us co-op farmers. When the tractors sent by the state demonstratively knocked down all the foot-paths between the patches, high and low, we felt as though individualism which remained intact for ages like the foot-path was knocked out of the head all at once.

The road of cooperativization which leads us to farm easily with the help of machines in ploughing, seeding and the like was what we wanted to traverse because we had done farming on our small plots of fields for generations with great difficulty.

When the co-op farm came into being, we deemed it a high honour and pride to become its masters and socialist agricultural working people. But, at the time we couldn't fully realize, as I recall it now, that we were the socialist working people and, in particular, we failed to take up the complete stand and attitude of a genuine master towards the co-operative economy. The petty-proprietor inclination took deep root in our mind while we were engaged in the dispersed, small-scale private farming for centuries. It could not be rooted out of its own accord simply because we joined in the co-operative farm and performed the collective labour. There were instances, though rare, in which we behaved ourselves unbecoming of the socialist agricultural working people, driven involuntarily by the remnants of old ideology. They exerted negative influence upon the rapid development of the collective economy. Such instances were not confined to us alone. Many other farmers were still infected with the old ideological remnants in varying degrees, unable to purge the mind of them even after the cooperativization.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung set it in his theses on the rural question as the central tasks of the continuous revolution to carry out the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions after the establishment of socialist system in the countryside, and advanced the line of giving definite priority to the ideological revolution above all basing himself on a scientific analysis of the decisive role played by ideological consciousness in revolution and construction and of the ideological frame of mind of us peasants following the cooperativization. Indeed, this line was permeated with the immensely affectionate, paternal love of the leader who intends to revolutionize and working-classize us farmers and thus lead us up to a communist society.

Under his warm, loving care we strove to revolutionize and working-classize ourselves.

Under the guidance of the primary Party committee of the cooperative farm we directed our efforts, first of all, to arming ourselves firmly with the immortal Juche idea of the great leader. The harder we studied the essential requirement of the Juche idea that since the masters of the revolution and construction are the masses of the people, they should take a responsible attitude of a master toward the revolution and construction, the stronger determination we made to do any work of the cooperative farm with the attitude of a master, and this determination grew as firm as a rock.

Moreover, we strengthened the organizational life and ideological tempering in order to rid ourselves of selfishness and petty-proprietor inclination and arm ourselves with collectivist spirit.

Meanwhile, we combined the striving to cultivate the spirit of loving work and honestly participating in collective work as well as the collectivist spirit closely with practice. Under the banner of the communist, collectivist spirit of "One for all and all for one!" the co-op farmers of our workteam joined in the Chollima workteam movement and have faithfully carried out the tasks assigned to it, helping and pulling each other forward.

With the active assistance from the state we have been doing farming with the help of machines and chemicals, living an affluent, cultured life in the houses provided gratis by the state, freed from the taxation. Our experience in life has brought us deeper realization of the superiority of our socialist system set up by the leader.

In this course all of us co-op farmers have been united with one thought and will on the basis of his revolutionary ideas, and our workteam has become the honourable Chollima workteam, a revolutionary collective, which never fails to carry out to the end unconditionally any task given by the leader.

Such changes in our ideological life produced great material force.

Last year our workteam concentrated all its efforts on farming and farmed in a scientific and technical way as instructed by the leader, thereby scoring such a success as to harvest one ton more of rice and 2.2 tons more of maize per *chongbo* than the amount specified in the state plan.

These changes are not confined to our workteam members only. With energetic promotion of the ideological revolution clarified in the theses on the socialist rural question all of us farmers of the Chollima Hwasong Cooperative Farm, and all co-operative farmers in our country have become the agricultural working people, the genuine masters of the socialist countryside, who are infinitely loyal to the leader. This we can say with a great pride.

Kim Sun Pil, Head of the Second Workteam of the Chollima Hwasong Cooperative Farm

BANNER OF "THESES ON THE SOCIALIST RURAL QUESTION" THE GREAT LEADER COMRADE KIM IL SUNG

Rural Technical Revolution Vigorously Pushed Forward

The task of the technical revolution set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung in his theses on the rural question is being successfully carried on in our socialist countryside.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"In former days, our people were far removed from modern civilization and did not even understand what industry meant. But today, they have already completed the irrigation and electrification of agriculture and are now carrying on the overall mechanization and chemicalization; they have entered a new age of industrialization and modernization of agriculture."

Under the protracted, oppressive feudal and colonial rule in the past our peasants were forced to cultivate the land with hoes and wooden ploughs, praying for rain.

But this is a thing of the past. The fields wet with the sweat of our toiling peasants are now irrigated by life-giving water.

Machines are working on the fields, taking the place of primitive tools. Under the brilliant rays of the theses, the long-standing backwardness of agricultural productive forces was abolished and our prospering socialist countryside where farm work becomes joyous and fruitful is visited by a bumper harvest every year.

Ten years ago the leader said in his theses on the rural question that in order to firmly build the material and technical foundations of the socialist rural economy the four basic tasks of the rural technical revolution—irrigation, mechanization, electrification and chemicalization—should be carried out and showed us the concrete ways for their implementation.

Under the wise guidance of the leader our rural technical revolution was pushed forward at an exceptionally fast tempo.

As a result, the irrigation of the rural economy, a magnificent undertaking transforming the nature, was brought to brilliant completion.

Following the completion of the large-scale, state-financed Pyongnam, Kiyang and Ojidon irrigation projects, the past ten years have witnessed the accomplishment of an irrigation project in the Chongdan-Singye areas and a large-scale Amnokgang irrigation project which brings waters to the vast tideland along the West Sea. The drainage projects, river improvement projects and dyke projects for controlling tidewater were undertaken in a big way. The modern water sprinkling system was introduced in wider areas.

Now our country has many reservoirs and pumping stations and is covered with a ramified network of crisscrossing irrigation channels.

Our farmers provided with the well-equipped irrigation and drainage facilities reap a rich, stable harvest every year even under the unfavourable weather conditions. This success owes to the nature-remaking projects carried out throughout the country which was often hit by flood and drought in spring and in summer for many years.

Along with irrigation the task of electrification was also admirably carried out.

In our country every farm village has electricity and every farmhouse has electric lights. This enables our farmers to enjoy a cultured life. A great volume of electricity is extensively used as a source of power for machines and of heat in agricultural production every year.

Many tractor plants and farm machine factories and farm machine accessories plants which serve the rural economy, sprang up in the past ten years; the farm machine stations in all cities and counties were further built up firmly and the truck production rapidly increased. Thus, a great number of tractors and trucks and all kinds of farm machines are sent to the countryside every year. This has resulted in equipping our agriculture with powerful means of machines. Now three to four tractors are working on the plain areas for every 100 *chongbo* of cultivated land.

Our agricultural working people carried out in a big way land-levelling projects by using these modern machines and, at the same time, strove to devise efficient machines suited to the terrene features so es to increase the kinds and scope of the field work done by machines.

The outcome was that the rate of work rendered by machines rapidly increased in the plain, mountainous and intermediate and other areas and in all branches of agricultural production—farming, stock-breeding, fruit and vegetable growing.

Particularly, with the successful promotion of the comprehensive mechanization of farm work, machines are doing the farmers' arduous work—ploughing, harrowing, sowing, weeding, harvesting, hauling and other work.

A vigorous campaign was also waged to guarantee that chemicals were used in agriculture, with the result that the reliable chemical centre serving the rural economy was built.

The large-scale expansion projects of the existing fertilizer factories were undertaken and new ones erected in all parts of the country. Special mention should be made here of the fact that the phosphatic fertilizer producing centre relying on domestic raw materials was firmly built and the firm foundations were laid for producing the microelement fertilizers suitable to the soil and the peculiarities of the crops of our country. The same is true of the base producing herbicides and other agricultural chemicals.

Now in our country the material foundations were laid for applying more than one ton of chemical fertilizer per *chongbo* in terms of weight and over 200 kilogrammes in terms of ingredients.

As a result, our countryside is supplied with large quantities of fertilizers of three ingredients and microelement fertilizers every year and various kinds of herbicides, insecticides and germicides are used on an extensive scale in agricultural production.

The increase in the number of agricultural experts and the rapid elevation of the level of the general technical knowledge of the farmers further promoted the introduction in agricultural production of the advanced farming methods and new achievements in agricultural science.

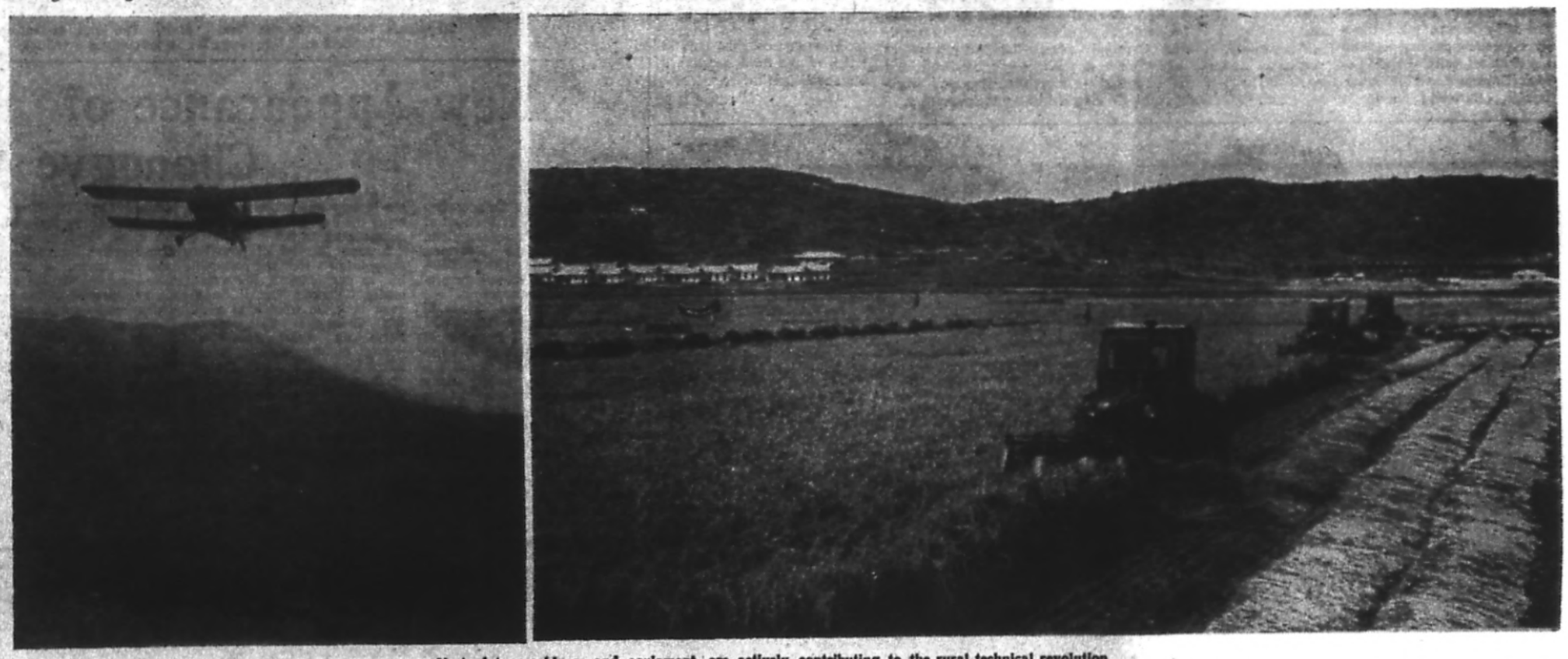
On the basis of the successes achieved in mechanization and chemicalization of the rural economy for ten years since the publication of the theses on the rural question, our country set it as an important task to accomplish rapidly the comprehensive mechanization and chemicalization in the carrying out of the rural technical revolution. A titanic struggle is now waged to fulfil this task.

We can confidently say that our country has entered an age of the complete industrialization and modernization of agriculture.

The great concept thrashed out by the leader—to free our farmers from the arduous work for ever, bring about the substantial increase in labour productivity aimed to let a single farmer cultivate five *chongbo* of rice paddy or ten or more *chongbo* of dry-farming land and to introduce the eight-hour work day in the countryside, as is the industrial branches— is being transformed from a cherished ideal into the reality.

Now throughout the countryside the technical revolution is being vigorously pushed forward to bring his great plan to complete realization.

Li Chan Sun



Up-to-date machines and equipment are actively contributing to the rural technical revolution

State Assistance

Many people visit our bank every day.

A close look into the transactions between bank clerks and the visitors may help you to understand that the date of repayment of the loan the latter get from the bank is not fixed and that the loan carries no interest at all. Further, it should be mentioned that there is no practice of giving something as security for the loan.

This serves to show that they are not in the relationship of debtor and creditor and that our bank is not an enterprise whose profits come from the balance between interests on deposit and loan.

Our central bank is, in fact, a supply agency which furnishes state funds according to the plan ratified by the government. This function of the bank has been discharged thanks to the new banking system built up by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung in conformity with the new circumstances created following the establishment of the socialist system in our country.

Reorganization of the banking system has an important significance not only in running the whole national economy but also in increasing the state assistance to the building of the socialist countryside.

The great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung gave the following teaching in the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country":

"By steadily intensifying the support to the countryside, we will systematically lighten the burdens of the co-operative farms and peasants and, in the future, will guarantee for the peasants, like the workers, all their production and living conditions at the expense of the state and the whole society."

In line with the policy set forth by the leader, our bank financially guarantees the material, technical and labour support of the state to the rural communities.

First of all, in order to render the countryside material and technical assistance, much funds are diverted to extensively developing the industrial branches responsible for production of material means to be sent to the rural districts.

In the recent period, our bank appropriated a huge amount of capital construction funds needed for building new factories and enterprises—the Kumsong Tractor Plant and other modern farm machine factories, power stations and chemical plants and so forth. Even after the completion of these industrial establishments, circulating funds for producing more farm machines and chemical fertilizers are granted to them. Tractors and other modern farm machines to be used in the countryside are procured with state funds.

Farm machine stations, irrigation administration offices and the other factories and enterprises in direct service of agriculture are all run at state expense.

Since the publication of the leader's theses on the rural question, all capital construction projects formerly done by the co-operative farms with their own funds have been financed by the state, among them irrigation works, river improvements, installing of pumping facilities, building of thrashing grounds, animal sheds and warehouses, laying of electrical transmission lines and so on.

The funds of our bank are also spent for other purposes in the countryside.

A good deal of funds are diverted to maintenance of the agricultural college in every province and the higher agricultural school in each county, which train technicians and specialists for the rural communities, and to that of correspondence courses which farmers take while on the job. These educational institutions provide the students with every condition for studying free of charge and even grant them scholarships.

Along with such material and technical support, labour assistance are given without stint.

There is a time for farming. If we let it slip by, the year's crop may turn out a failure. In busy farming season, great labour assistance is lent to our farmers under the slogan calling for a nation-wide help to the countryside. In this case, the state bears the expenses to be paid by the co-operative farms for the assistance.

As a result of the energetic material and technical support and labour aid, in our countryside irrigation and electrification have already been finished with flying colours and mechanization and chemicalization are being promoted on a full scale. Hence, our farm villages gather in abundant crops every year.

The assistance of the state to the countryside does not end here.

The head office and branches of our central bank give financial aid to the co-operative farms for their farm work and disburse enormous funds in accordance with the state policy for eliminating distinctions between workers and farmers in living standards and between urban and rural inhabitants in living conditions.

So far, modern farm houses for several hundred thousand families have been built at state expense and provided gratis to them. The state even exempted them from house rent. The cosy dwellings for 150,000-200,000 peasant households, too, which are expected to be erected annually from now, will be allotted to our farmers in the same way. The construction of rural hospitals and introduction of water service and opening of bus service in the countryside are also undertaken by the state.

The state funds constitute financial sources for all the assistance mentioned above, and these funds come from inner accumulation in industry and various other sectors of the national economy that belong to property of the whole people.

Through this enormous accumulation the state completely relieved the farmers of the burden of taxation and has systematically raised the purchase prices of agricultural products, and it supplies clothes for rural children at low prices and send farmers to rest homes in winter.

Indeed, state assistance has led to a rapid increase in agricultural production and a radical improvement of the farmers' life.

Pyon Sung U,
Central Bank, DPRK

Our working class are mass-producing tractors and lorries which will be conducive to the fulfilment of the rural technical revolution

By Industrial Method in Guidance

The Hwangju County Co-operative Farm Management Committee guides the cooperative farms by the industrial method, exercising a unified control over the agro-technicians and over nearly ten enterprises in the service of agriculture in our county—the farm machine station, the farm implement factory, the irrigation administration office, etc.

Over the past ten years following the publication of the theses on the rural question, in our county the ranks of agro-technicians have swelled rapidly and the material and technical foundations of agriculture have been strengthened incomparably. During this period, the number of tractors increased 2.9 times and that of lorries 11.5 times.

On this basis our Co-operative Farm Management Committee has further intensified its guidance of agriculture by the industrial method.

In the theses on the rural question, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out:

"Management by the industrial method means the strengthening of technical guidance of production and the planification and systematization of all management activities of the enterprise."

We devoted great efforts to the technical guidance of production which is of key importance to the guidance by the industrial method.

We strove tirelessly for seed improvement and succeeded in obtaining new strains of different crops a few years ago. Thus we achieved great success in seed allocation on the principle of right crop on right soil.

We gave guidance to the co-operative farms so that the comprehensive mechanization and chemicalization might be actively stepped up by the effective use of tractors, lorries and various other farm machines, chemical fertilizers and herbicides and all farm work be done efficiently without a loss of time and on a scientific and technical footing.

Technical guidance of agricultural production is given under the well-organized system of technical guidance established from the Co-operative Farm Management Committee to co-operative farms and workteams.

Along with technical guidance of production, we guided all aspects of management of the co-operative farms, from mapping out the production plan to the organization of production, technological development, the supply of materials, the allocation of the labour forces, financial affairs, etc. in accordance with the principle of meeting the requirements of policies of the Party and the state and giving full play to democracy in management of co-op farms. Thus we steadily raised the level of planification and systematization of the co-operative farms.

The strengthened guidance of agricultural production by the industrial method resulted in a rich harvest every year. Last year, our county increased the outputs of grain, livestock products and fruit by 38 per cent, 10 per cent and 52 per cent respectively as compared with the preceding year and brought about a great upsurge in all other domains of agricultural production.

We made efforts to effectively employ the state material and technical assistance to the rural economy. We saw to it that the functionaries of the farm machine station, who directly participate in agricultural production using the state-owned means of production, further deepened the sense of responsibility and enhanced their role and that the irrigation administration office, the seed administration office and all other state enterprises in the service of agriculture made positive contribution to agricultural production. In this course direct ties between industry and agriculture could be strengthened in production and greater influence be exerted by the working class on the peasantry in all spheres of technology, culture and ideology. At present the fixed property under the state ownership accounts for 78.4 per cent of all the fixed property used in agricultural production of co-operative farms in our county.

Thanks to the role of the Co-operative Farm Management Committee the organic combination of state property and cooperative property is materialized more effectively and the process of bringing co-operative property closer to all-people property is accelerated.

Kang Up Guk,
Hwangju County Co-operative Farm Management Committee

County—Regional Base

The great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said that in giving guidance to the regionally dispersed countryside a certain area should be designated as a unit of unified guidance in each locality and, with it as the base, direct guidance be given to all work centres within that area and made it clear that in our country such a base is the county.

He taught:

"In our country the county serves as the regional unit and as the base for giving direct, unified and comprehensive guidance to the rural work and to all local affairs."

The leader not only gave this clear exposition of the place of the county but also directed the work for strengthening the county in every way so that it can fulfil its mission as the regional base.

Thus, a greater change has been brought about in our counties in the recent ten years.

Our counties, as political, economic and cultural centres in certain regions, are now provided with better conditions for supporting the farm villages.

This bespeaks that our counties have become good bases for vigorously pushing forward the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions in the countryside, connecting the towns and the countryside and giving the political, economic and cultural support of the towns to the countryside.

The county has state-run enterprises and material-supply agencies directly in the service of the rural economy and various factories as well as facilities and equipment needed in developing agriculture with modern machinery and technology and extensively introducing the latest achievements of agricultural science.

The county co-operative farm management committees, which maintain unified control over all these, are energetically promoting comprehensive mechanization and overall chemicalization in our rural districts where irrigation and electrification have already been completed.

Our counties perform a positive part in carrying out the cultural revolution in the countryside.

In every county seat there are schools, hospitals, cinema houses, bookstores, libraries and other cultural and welfare establishments which serve the rural population in the county seat and other areas of the county.

The county assumes direct charge of the schools and hospitals in rural *ri* and directly guides all the cultural and welfare services in the county. Educational institutions in the county train Party cadres and managerial and technical personnel for the countryside. The county construction corps erected a great number of modern farm houses and built up county seats along modern lines.

The county seat is a model of the rural community in all spheres and an example of the new, socialist way of life.

In the county as a political centre, the county Party committee plays a very important role.

The county Party committees directly organize and conduct the political work in the countryside to arm the peasant masses with the monolithic ideology of our Party, the great revolutionary idea of the leader, and induce the farmers to unconditionally accept and uphold the leader's instructions and the Party policies and strive tooth and nail to carry them through to the end. The county Party committees give day-to-day guidance and assistance to the Party organizations in the rural villages and solidly build up the ranks of rural cadres. They constantly educate the Party members to play the vanguard role, and are revolutionizing and working-classizing the peasantry.

Our counties not only serve as the bases for accelerating the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions in the countryside but also play a great part in strengthening and developing the economic ties between town and country. Moreover, they serve as good bases of supply for the countryside.

The manufactured goods are supplied to the rural villages by way of the county, and it is also through the county that food and raw materials of industry are sent to the towns.

In this course the economic ties, commercial ties between our towns and countryside have been strengthened still further and both the industry and agriculture have made rapid development.

All the facts show that in the past ten years since the publication of the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" our counties played a very important role as regional bases in hastening the construction of socialist countryside, diminishing the differences between town and country and in solving the rural question satisfactorily.

Thanks to these good bases our country has the prospect for bringing about the final solution of the rural question in the not distant future.

Chon Il Su

Happiness reigns over the rural village. The hall of culture serves farmers as a fine centre for their cultural activities

Various kinds of daily necessities are supplied to the farmers at a low price as in the towns

New Appearance of Chonggye Village

The Chonggye Co-operative Farm is situated at the foot of a hillock on the Pongsan plain, North Hwanghae Province, through which the River Kumsuchon flows. The village presents beautiful landscapes.

The "Room for Study of the Revolutionary History of Comrade Kim Il Sung" built with the utmost care of villagers stands in the centre of this village. In its vicinity there stand modern two-storied farm houses, a club house, kindergarten and nursery schools, schools, a hospital, shops, barber shops, tailor's shops and other welfare facilities.

A water tower is seen on the top of the hill covered with fruit trees. Buses, tractors and trucks are seen running busily on the paved road in front of the village.

Under the bright rays of the "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" authored by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, a blessed socialist modern village has appeared here on the soil of Chonggye.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"We must see that all the co-operative farms in our country become prosperous and all our peasants live in plenty. We should further reduce the distinctions between town and country, and, while steadily raising the living standard of the factory and office workers, bring the living standard of the peasants up to it."

Always mindful of how he could bring a rich and cultured life to our farmers, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung even took the trouble to visit the Chonggye Co-operative Farm on many occasions, though so busy with state affairs. Showing the way the co-op farm should follow, he saw to it that farmers were provided with good dwelling houses and better conditions for study and cultured life. He taught them how to improve the work of school and clinic, commodity supply and even how to increase their earnings.

Thanks to the leader's direct care and under the banner of the theses on the rural question, the Chonggye village has undergone great changes.

In a few years after the publication of the theses some 900 farmers' families who lived scattered over wide areas moved into the modernly-equipped residential quarters which were built in a sunny place at the foot of the hill.

Thus in this village all straw-thatched cottages, vestiges of poverty of many years, now have given way to houses with necessary amenities of modern life.

The abolition of tax in kind was a historical event in the life of farmers in this village.

Before liberation they were plagued by crushing farm rents and heavy taxes of various kinds which reduced them to pauperism. But they are free from all taxes. In 1966 they were exempt from even a meagre amount of tax in kind which was introduced after liberation.

They had never dreamed of a land free from taxes. But this has become the reality in this village.

In the past 10 years, farmers' earnings per family unit went up 4.8 times in grain and 3.9 times in cash. The result is that the farmers' life has become more plentiful.

There have also been marked improvements in their living conditions. Thus they have come to enjoy a decent life as well as urban dwellers.

The leader's policy on opening bus and water services in every rural *ri* and developing the village clinic into hospital has admirably been brought to realization in this village.

Bus service is now open to the county and provincial seats, neighbouring counties and all other rural *ri*.

With the opening of water service water jars, which the rural women used to carry on their heads for long years, have already disappeared. In former days water shortage was keenly felt in this village. No wonder that, it was told, even flying birds felt a thirst for drinking water. But today water lines have been laid in all houses. This lightens considerably women's household chores and enables the farmers to live more hygienic and modern life.

The modernly-equipped people's hospital gives the inhabitants a better free medical service.

Every family unit has magazines and newspapers of its own. After work farmers enjoy their rest watching TV.

The village has a club house with a capacity of 1,300 seats, where films are regularly screened and colourful art performances are staged by the village youths.

Before liberation there was not a single school there. But the village has now two senior middle schools and two primary schools where the sons and daughters of the co-op farmers study to their hearts' content.

Such a change is not confined to this village alone. This is a common scene of our socialist countryside where the traces of long-age poverty have been eliminated under the bright rays of the great theses on the rural question authored by the leader. Wherever you may go, you will see our farmers live in plenty in the villages with various facilities for modern life.

Han Su Chon

Our modern socialist countryside, beautiful and good to live in

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